

Message Text

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ORIGIN HA-05

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 INSE-00 EA-12 VO-03 CA-01
SIG-03 MMO-01 SSO-00 IO-14 NEA-11 AF-10 PA-02
ICAE-00 JUSE-00 /075 R

DRAFTED BY HA/ORM:JBROH-KAHN:LGS
APPROVED BY HA/ORM:HBCUSHING
INS/CO:JREBSAMEN
EA/RA:FBENNETT
CA/VO:SPATTERSON

-----057589 272142Z /75

P 271757Z JUN 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO ALL EAST ASIAN AND PACIFIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY DJIBOUTI IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY COLOMBO IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY
USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SREF

SUBJECT: INITIAL PROCESSING OF BOAT REFUGEES UNDER LRP
REF: STATE 152208

HONG KONG PASS INS DIDIR

1. REF A SET FORTH CRITERIA FOR BOAT, AS WELL AS LAND
REFUGEES UNDER NEW 25,000 LONG RANGE PAROLE PROGRAM (LRP)
AUTHORIZED BY ATTORNEY GENERAL JUNE 14, 1978. THESE
CRITERIA WERE COMPROMISE AGREED TO BY STATE, JUSTICE, AND
INS AFTER CONSIDERABLE DISCUSSION. THEY WERE ATTACHED TO
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LETTER FROM ATTORNEY GENERAL TO REPRESENTATIVE EILBERG
IN RESPONSE TO HIS LETTER TO ATTORNEY GENERAL CALLING FOR
DEVELOPMENT OF CRITERIA.

2. USING THESE CRITERIA, WE MUST BEGIN PROCESSING ASAP
FIRST TRANCHE OF 1,500 BOAT REFUGEES FOR JUNE. ACCORDING
TO REF A PARA 4, FIRST TRANCHE WILL BE RESERVED FOR BOAT

REFUGEES WHO ARRIVED IN COUNTRY PRIOR TO JUNE 14, 1978 AND WERE FULLY DOCUMENTED IN TERMS OF VISAS FALCON CLEARANCE AND RELATIVE OR EMPLOYMENT VERIFICATION. REFUGEES WILL BE GIVEN PRIORITY IN ORDER OF THEIR CATEGORY RANKING. IN OTHER WORDS ALL ELIGIBLE CATEGORY I REFUGEES WILL BE HANDLED BEFORE CATEGORY II REFUGEES AND SO ON. HOWEVER ONCE ALL ELIGIBLE REFUGEES IN THE HIGHER CATEGORIES HAVE BEEN PROCESSED THE PROCESSING WILL CONTINUE TO THE LOWER CATEGORIES AND NOT BE HELD UP WAITING FOR ADDITIONAL REFUGEES TO BE FOUND ELIGIBLE FOR THE HIGHER CATEGORIES.

3. POSTS SHOULD REPORT HOW MANY REFUGEES IN EACH COUNTRY WERE IN EACH OF THE FOUR CATEGORIES ON JUNE 14. ACCORDING TO REF A PARA 4, WE WILL THEN SET ASIDE NUMBERS FROM 1,500 TOTAL FOR ALL FOUND IN CAT I AT ALL POSTS. IF ANY NUMBERS REMAIN FROM 1,500, THEY WILL BE SET ASIDE FOR CAT II REFUGEES AT ALL POSTS. IF ANY STILL REMAIN, THEY WILL BE SET ASIDE FOR CAT III REFUGEES AT ALL POSTS. AFTER CAT I, II AND III REFUGEES PRE-JUNE 14, 1978 HAVE BEEN ACCOMMODATED ANY REMAINING NUMBERS WILL THEN BE ALLOCATED TO CAT IV REFUGEES.

4. WE DO NOT ANTICIPATE THAT THERE WILL BE ADEQUATE NUMBERS LEFT TO TAKE CARE OF ALL CAT IV REFUGEES. THEREFORE, DEPT. WILL REQUEST INS CENTRAL OFFICE TO DIRECT DIDIR HONG KONG TO ALLOCATE NUMBERS FOR REMAINING CAT IV
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REFUGEES. BASED ON POLITICAL REQUIREMENTS SET FORTH BY VARIOUS POSTS CONSIDERATION WILL BE GIVEN TO ALLOCATING CAT IV NUMBERS PRIMARILY ON BASIS OF A GIVEN COUNTRY'S CONTINUING GRANTING OF TEMPORARY ASYLUM TO BOAT REFUGEES, AS WELL AS SIZE OF ITS CASELOAD.

5. FOR INSTANCE, WE PARTICULARLY WISH TO ENCOURAGE MALAYSIA, WHICH HAS ABOUT 7,000 OUT OF ABOUT 13,000 TOTAL BOAT REFUGEES NOW ON BEACH BUT WITHOUT RESETTLEMENT OFFER, TO CONTINUE TO ACCEPT NEW ARRIVALS. TO DO SO, WE WISH TO ACCEPT AS MANY REFUGEES AS POSSIBLE FROM MALAYSIA, AND WILL ALLOCATE AS MANY CAT IV NUMBERS THERE AS POSSIBLE. THIS MEETS CRITERIA OF PERIL DISCUSSED BY STATE AND JUSTICE OFFICIALS WITH REPRESENTATIVE EILBERG INASMUCH AS NEWLY ARRIVING REFUGEES MAY BE IN PERIL OF BEING REFUSED LANDING AND SENT BACK TO SEA BY MALAYSIAN AUTHORITIES IF WE DO NOT CONTINUE ACCEPTING AS MANY AS POSSIBLE FROM THOSE ALREADY ON BEACH THERE.

6. WE ALSO SUGGEST POSTS PUT HIGH IN PRIORITY UNDER CAT IV THOSE BOAT REFUGEES WHO ARE EITHER RELATIVES OF PERSONS WHO ARRIVED IN U.S. AFTER JUNE 14, 1978, OR MARRIED

SIBLINGS OF PERSONS IN U.S. NEITHER OF THESE GROUPS ARE INCLUDED IN CAT I UNDER NEW CRITERIA, BUT WE CONSIDER BOAT REFUGEES FALLING WITHIN EITHER OF THESE GROUPS SHOULD BE GIVEN MOST FAVORABLE TREATMENT POSSIBLE WITHIN THE CRITERIA.

7. NEW REPORTING REQUIREMENTS FOR LRP WILL BE SENT SEPTTEL.

FOR PRESENT, PLEASE REPORT ONLY BOAT REFUGEES IN EACH OF FOUR CATEGORIES WHO ARRIVED IN THE COUNTRY OF TEMPORARY ASYLUM AND WERE FULLY DOCUMENTED PRIOR TO JUNE 14, 1978. WE ARE NOW CONSIDERING THAT NEXT CUT-OFF DATE SHOULD BE JULY 1 AND MONTHLY THEREAFTER, AND WOULD WELCOME POST COMMENTS ON SUCH PHASING AND ANY OTHER ASPECTS OF LRP. MEANWHILE, PLEASE CONTINUE WEEKLY REPORTING ON COMPLETION
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OF IPP-77 AND 78 IN SEPARATE TELEGRAMS FROM REPORTS ON LRP.

8. RECOGNIZING THAT CRITERIA FOR CAT III PERMIT VARIOUS INTERPRETATIONS, WE ARE CONSIDERING CALLING MEETING IN EARLY JULY IN BANGKOK WITH REPS FROM HONG KONG (INS DIDIR AND CONOFF), MALAYSIA, PHILIPPINES, AND INDONESIA, COUNTRIES WITH MAJOR REFUGEE CONCENTRATIONS, AS WELL AS HA/ORM, TO ENSURE THAT CRITERIA ARE APPLIED AS OBJECTIVELY AS POSSIBLE BY CONOFF/REFOFFS IN PRINCIPAL FIRST ASYLUM COUNTRIES. VANCE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REFUGEES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 27 jun 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE163220
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: KAHN:LGS
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780266-0781
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780615/aaaaamwq.tel
Line Count: 146
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: c971e57e-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN HA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 STATE 152208
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 04 apr 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2190606
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: INITIAL PROCESSING OF BOAT REFUGEES UNDER LRP
TAGS: SREF
To: EA POSTS DJIBOUTI MULTIPLE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/c971e57e-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014